



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

For Release APRIL 9, 1959

UNITED STATES FISHING INDUSTRY INVESTMENTS EXCEED A BILLION DOLLARS

Fishermen, processors and distributors have a capital investment of more than a billion dollars in the fish business in the United States, according to Fishery Leaflet 393 just released by the Department of the Interior.

The same report indicates that the estimated retail value of fishery products marketed during 1958 was more than \$1.7 billion.

The domestic catch was 4.72 billion pounds, a decrease of 62 million pounds, but the value of the catch to the fishermen was a record \$370 million, an increase of \$19 million over 1957.

Imports were up the equivalent of 290 million pounds (live weight basis) over 1957, which makes a net gain for 1958 of 228 million pounds. This made 7.4 billion pounds (live weight) available for the American market.

The per capita consumption in 1958 was 10.4 pounds, or .3 pounds higher than in 1957.

Fishery Leaflet 393 is the preliminary annual summary of the fisheries of the United States. It is issued by the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries, Fish and Wildlife Service. It contains information on employment, catch, manufactured fishery products, foreign fishery trade, historical production trends, and other information of value to the fishing industry and to those interested in fishery economics.

The \$370 million value of the catch as landed increased to \$633 million at the processor level for the domestic items which were manufactured. At the wholesale level the value of the total United States catch is estimated at \$882 million and to the retailer \$1.2 billion.

The value of the imported fishery products which were received fresh, frozen, and otherwise processed was \$320 million. Imported items processed in the United States were worth \$155 million after manufacturing. The value of all imports reached \$502 million at the wholesale level and \$552 million when they reached the retailer. Domestically caught fish and imports were valued at \$788 million to the processor, \$1,384 million to the wholesaler and \$1,702 million to the retailer.

The domestic producers of fish have \$411,500,000 invested in boats and \$89,000,000 invested in fishing gear. The fisheries provide employment for 142,000 fishermen and transporters and 97,000 persons in wholesale and manufacturing establishments. A total of \$242,600,000 is invested in freezing and processing plants and \$217,600,000 in wholesale fish houses. The value of the facilities for handling fish at the retail level is placed at \$111,000,000. The grand total investment on the basis of these data is \$1,072,300,000.

Forty percent of the domestic catch was converted into byproducts--oil, meal or solubles--or used as bait. More than 31 percent or 1,483 million pounds were utilized fresh or frozen for human food; over 26 percent, or 1,242 million pounds were canned and 88 million pounds, nearly 2 percent, were cured.

The Atlantic coast produced 53 percent of the domestic catch or 2,502 million pounds. Other producing areas show: Pacific coast, 904 million pounds; Gulf coast 780 million pounds; Alaska 380 million pounds; Great Lakes and Mississippi River, 150 million pounds.

San Pedro again led all ports in poundage and value of fish landed, with 380 million pounds, principally tuna, Pacific sardines and mackerel, valued at \$27,900,000.

Lewes, Delaware, was second in poundage with nearly 271 million pounds, mostly menhaden. Reedville, Virginia, another menhaden port, lists nearly 248 million pounds landed. Data from other ports show: Gloucester, Mass., 230 million pounds of fish, valued at \$8 million; San Diego, California, 124 million pounds, \$17.1 million; Boston, Mass., 124 million pounds, \$12.6 million; New Bedford, Mass., 112 million pounds, \$13.8 million; Portland, Maine, 62 million pounds, \$2.2 million; Rockland, Maine, 49 million pounds, \$2 million.

Astoria, Oregon, reports landings of crabs, salmon and bottomfish of more than 71 million pounds. Cameron, Louisiana, reports landings of 149 million pounds of menhaden and shrimp. Landings at Beaufort-Morehead City, North Carolina, totaled 179 million pounds, mostly menhaden; menhaden and other industrial fish landings at Empire, Louisiana, totaled 105 million pounds.

Pascougala, Miss., reports 164 million pounds of menhaden and other industrial fish. (In some instances the value of the catch was not available at the time the report was compiled.) Practically all of the landings at San Diego were tuna. Haddock, pollock and cod predominated at Boston; industrial fish, flounders and sea scallops at New Bedford; ocean perch, industrial fish and whiting at Gloucester.

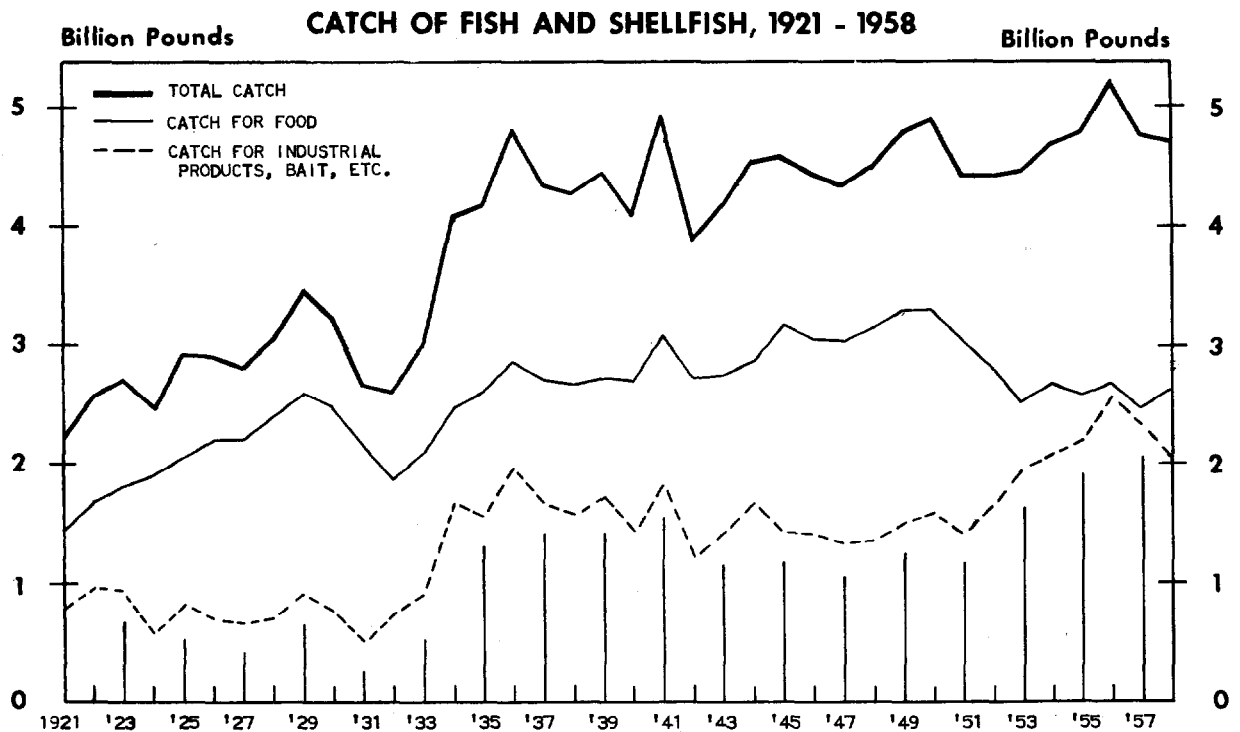
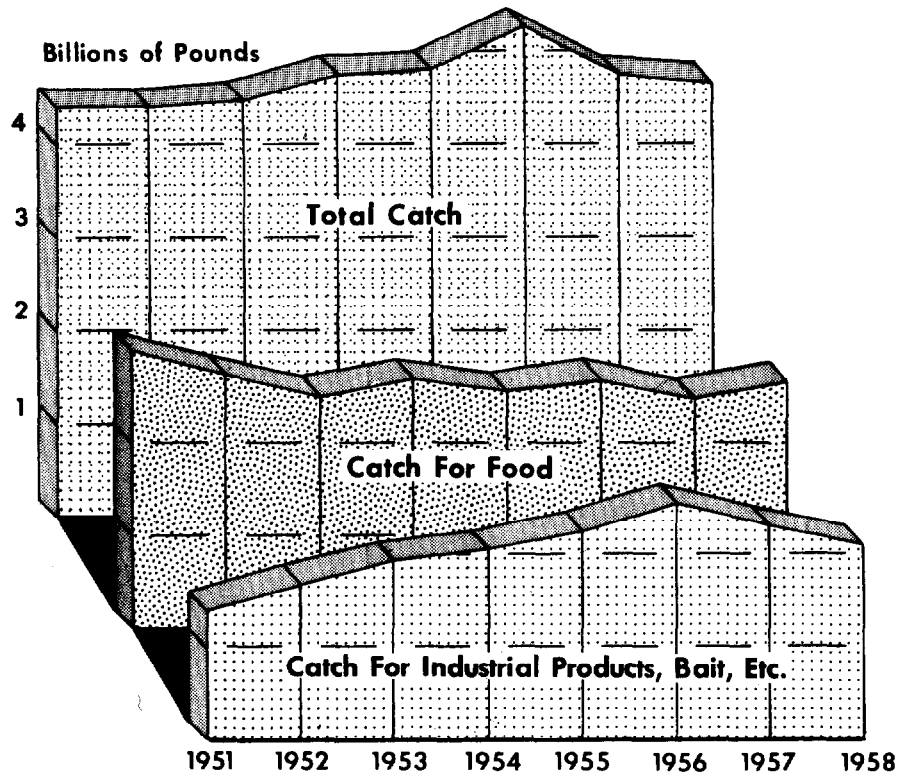
Copies of Fishery Leaflet 393 are available at the Office of Information, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington 25, D. C.

Charts showing the catch of fish and shellfish are attached.

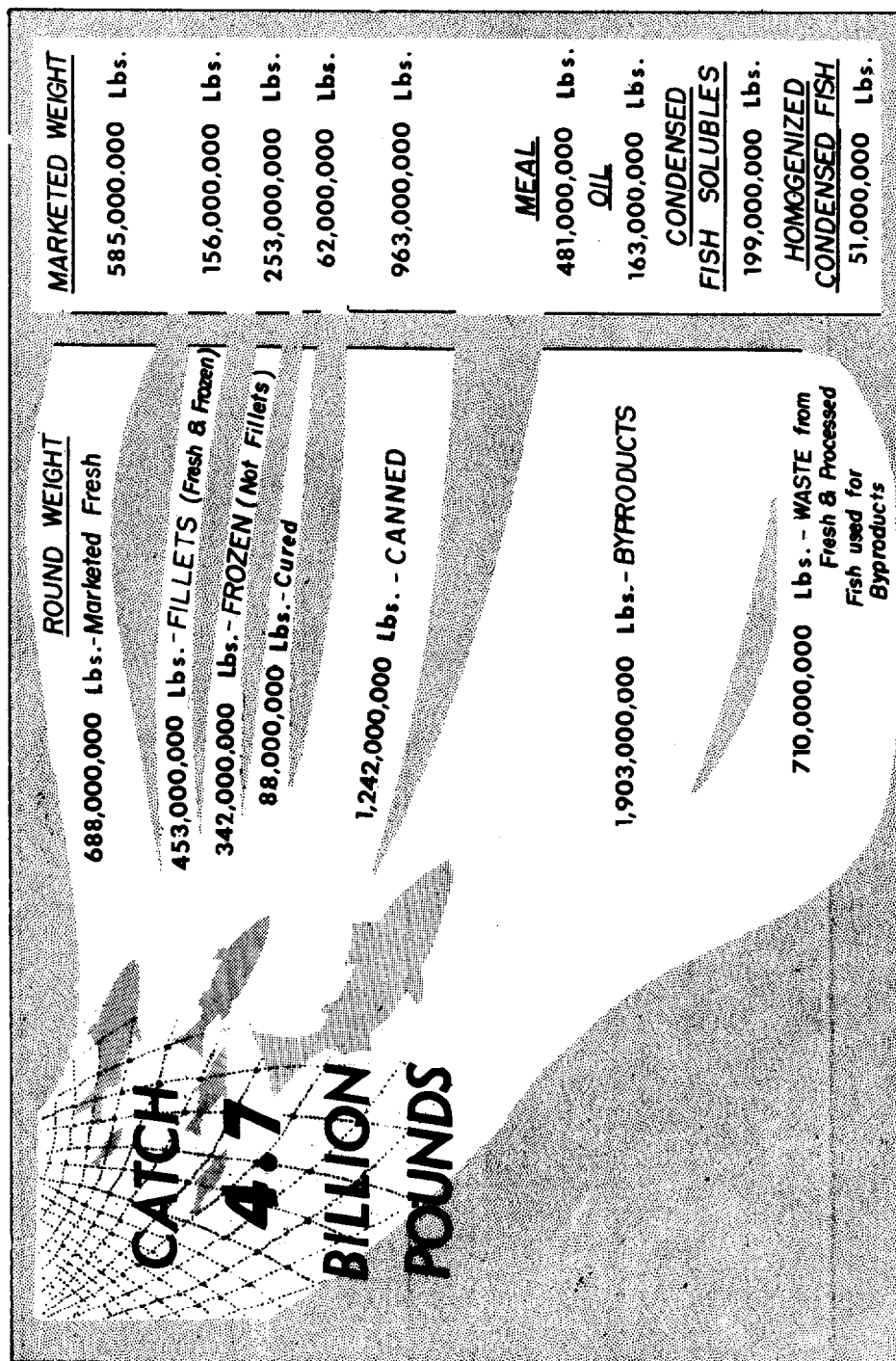
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CATCH, UNITED STATES AND ALASKA - Continued

CATCH OF FISH AND SHELLFISH, 1951 - 1958



FLOW CHART of the COMMERCIAL FISHERIES - 1958



NOTE: THE ROUND AND MARKETED WEIGHTS SHOWN ABOVE DO NOT INCLUDE IMPORTED ITEMS PROCESSED IN THE UNITED STATES. THE MARKETED WEIGHTS LISTED DO NOT INCLUDE FRESH BAIT, OR ANIMAL FOOD PREPARED FROM WASTE, SHELL PRODUCTS, OR OTHER MISCELLANEOUS BYPRODUCTS.

103257

FOUKE FUR COMPANY



Typed in figures from Fouke Fur Co. telegram, dated 4/11
received April 13, 1959

ST. LOUIS 10. MO.

PUBLIC AUCTION DIVISION

We wish to announce that we will offer at public auction at 1328 South Kingshighway,
St. Louis, Mo.

FRIDAY, APRIL 10, 1959

(Approximate Quantities)
Actual

FOR ACCOUNT OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT:

ALASKA FUR SEAL (24,578)*				
8,000	2,000 Black	Averages: \$120.97	Advance 16.3	Total: \$2,451,562 Grand Average \$99.75 Advance 10.1
13,024	13,000 Matara*-processed	" \$87.87	Advance 4.2	
3,544	3,000 Kitovi*-processed	" \$95.51	Advance 14.9	

FOR ACCOUNT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN:

ALASKA FUR SEAL			
1,537	1,500 Black	\$117.59	Grand Average \$99.53
3,291	3,100 Matara*-processed	91.09	

FOR ACCOUNT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA:

SOUTH AFRICA FUR SEAL All So. Af. Fur seal Averaged \$39.76 Adv. 23.1
3,624 3,500 Transveldt*-processed - Neutral

FOR ACCOUNT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF URUGUAY:

URUGUAY FUR SEAL		Averaged \$49.46
298	300 Black	
1,200	1,200 Neutral	

TOTAL of ENTIRE SALE \$3,519,167.90

FOR ACCOUNT OF OTHER SHIPPERS:

SOUTH AFRICA FUR SEAL
9,254 9,000 Transveldt*-processed - Neutral
21 Black

All fur seal unless otherwise stated are dressed, dyed, machined and finished.

Goods will be on show on and after Friday, April 3rd at our show rooms, 1328 South Kingshighway. Sale will take place at 8:00 A. M. Friday, April 10, 1959.

THE ENTIRE TRADE IS INVITED TO ATTEND THIS SALE

*Reg. U. S., Canada
and other countries

FOUKE FUR COMPANY

ST. LOUIS, MO., U.S.A.

MARCH 23, 1959